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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

August 31, 2007

Ms. Sandra Barnum
Cultural Resources Director
Department of the Army US Army - Engineer District, Omaha
106 South 15th Street
Omaha, NE 68102-1618

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 33407, Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation
Construction Into the Powder River Basin

Dear Ms. Barnum,

The Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is pleased to provide you with the enclosed report entitled *Phase IA Overview and Phase I Survey Methodology for Cultural Resources in the Minnesota Rehabilitation Segment and Mankato South Alignment*. This draft report was prepared for STB by the Two Pines Resource Group, LLC, Shafer, Minnesota and presents the results of a literature search conducted for the Rehabilitation Segment of the existing Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad line in the state of Minnesota as well as the Mankato South alignment which is proposed for new railroad construction.

The enclosed report presents a summary of previously recorded archaeological sites located within one mile of the existing railroad line (Rehabilitation segment) and within one mile of the railroad centerline for proposed construction of the Mankato South alignment. Based on the information they gathered, the authors have developed a survey methodology for completing additional intensive survey (Phase I) and evaluations (Phase II) for all archaeological resources located within the Area of Potential Effects as defined in the Programmatic Agreement and Identification Plan.

This report is provided as additional background information for this portion of the project corridor. Following completion of the Phase I and Phase II investigations by the Two Pines Resource Group, LLC this summer, a comprehensive report and findings of effect will be prepared and provided for your review and comment in accordance with Section A.3 of the Programmatic Agreement.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this report or the proposed work plan, please contact Ms. Cathy Glidden, SEA's Project Manager, at 202-245-0293 (Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov) or Mr.

David Bibler, LBG Project Manager (Third-Party Contractor) at 319-373-3043
(dbibbler@louisberger.com).

Thank you for your continued interest in this project. We look forward to hearing your views as we continue to implement the provisions of the PA.

Sincerely,

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Victoria Rutson, Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis

Cc: ,

Enclosure: Two Pines Resource Group, LLC (Draft Report, April 2007)



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

August 31, 2007

Mr. Brad Johnson
US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
190 Fifth Street East
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1638

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 33407, Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation
Construction Into the Powder River Basin

Dear Mr. Johnson,

The Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is pleased to provide you with the enclosed report entitled *Phase IA Overview and Phase I Survey Methodology for Cultural Resources in the Minnesota Rehabilitation Segment and Mankato South Alignment*. This draft report was prepared for STB by the Two Pines Resource Group, LLC, Shafer, Minnesota and presents the results of a literature search conducted for the Rehabilitation Segment of the existing Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad line in the state of Minnesota as well as the Mankato South alignment which is proposed for new railroad construction.

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Section of Environmental Analysis

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Enclosure: Two Pines Resource Group, LLC (Draft Report, April 2007)



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

August 31, 2007

Mr. Ian Ritchie
Archaeologist
Douglas Ranger District
2250 East Richards Street
Douglas, WY 82633

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 33407, Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation
Construction Into the Powder River Basin

Dear Mr. Ritchie,

The Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is pleased to provide you with the enclosed report entitled *Phase IA Overview and Phase I Survey Methodology for Cultural Resources in the Minnesota Rehabilitation Segment and Mankato South Alignment*. This draft report was prepared for STB by the Two Pines Resource Group, LLC, Shafer, Minnesota and presents the results of a literature search conducted for the Rehabilitation Segment of the existing Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad line in the state of Minnesota as well as the Mankato South alignment which is proposed for new railroad construction.

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Section of Environmental Analysis

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Enclosure: Two Pines Resource Group, LLC (Draft Report, April 2007)



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

August 31, 2007

Ms. Alice Tratebas
Archaeologist
Bureau of Land Management
1101 Washington Blvd.
Newcastle, WY 82701

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 33407, Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation
Construction Into the Powder River Basin

Dear Ms. Tratebas,

The Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is pleased to provide you with the enclosed report entitled *Phase IA Overview and Phase I Survey Methodology for Cultural Resources in the Minnesota Rehabilitation Segment and Mankato South Alignment*. This draft report was prepared for STB by the Two Pines Resource Group, LLC, Shafer, Minnesota and presents the results of a literature search conducted for the Rehabilitation Segment of the existing Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad line in the state of Minnesota as well as the Mankato South alignment which is proposed for new railroad construction.

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Section of Environmental Analysis

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Enclosure: Two Pines Resource Group, LLC (Draft Report, April 2007)



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

August 31, 2007

Mr. James Kangas
Archaeologist
Bureau of Reclamation
Rapid City Field Office, KD-700
Rapid City, SD 57701

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 33407, Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation
Construction Into the Powder River Basin

Dear Mr. Kangas,

The Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is pleased to provide you with the enclosed report entitled *Phase IA Overview and Phase I Survey Methodology for Cultural Resources in the Minnesota Rehabilitation Segment and Mankato South Alignment*. This draft report was prepared for STB by the Two Pines Resource Group, LLC, Shafer, Minnesota and presents the results of a literature search conducted for the Rehabilitation Segment of the existing Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad line in the state of Minnesota as well as the Mankato South alignment which is proposed for new railroad construction.

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Section of Environmental Analysis

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Enclosure: Two Pines Resource Group, LLC (Draft Report, April 2007)



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

August 31, 2007

Mr. Barry Williams
Archaeologist
Bureau of Land Management
99 23rd Avenue, West
Dickinson, ND 58601

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 33407, Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation
Construction Into the Powder River Basin

Dear Mr. Williams,

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Section of Environmental Analysis

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Enclosure: Two Pines Resource Group, LLC (Draft Report, April 2007)



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

August 31, 2007

Mr. David Mather
National Register Archaeologist
Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office
345 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1906

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 33407, Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation
Construction Into the Powder River Basin

Dear Mr. Mather,

The Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is pleased to provide you with the enclosed report entitled *Phase IA Overview and Phase I Survey Methodology for Cultural Resources in the Minnesota Rehabilitation Segment and Mankato South Alignment*. This draft report was prepared for STB by the Two Pines Resource Group, LLC, Shafer, Minnesota and presents the results of a literature search conducted for the Rehabilitation Segment of the existing Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad line in the state of Minnesota as well as the Mankato South alignment which is proposed for new railroad construction.

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